

Message Text

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FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE, INFO ANKARA, LONDON, NICOSIA,
USUN, THESSALONIKI, MARCH 20, FROM ATHENS RPTD TO YOU:

QUOTE UNCLAS ATHENS 2209

DEPT PASS SECRETARY

1. SUMMARY. IN AIRPORT STATEMENT TO THE PRESS ON HIS
ARRIVAL IN ATHENS FROM NEW YORK ON MARCH 19, CLERIDES
INDICATED THAT LATEST UNSC RESOLUTION ON CYPRUS CONTAINS
POSITIVE ELEMENTS. CYPRIOT FOREIGN MINISTER CHRISTOPHIDES,
WHO ARRIVED SEPARATELY, MADE SIMILAR REMARKS TO THE PRESS
AND INDICATED HE EXPECTED FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN NEXT
FEW DAYS AS RESULT OF EFFORTS BY WALDHEIM. FOLLOWING
NEARLY TWO HOUR MEETING OF CYPRIOT OFFICIALS WITH
PM CARAMANLIS AND OTHER GREEK OFFICIALS,
CLERIDES COMMENTED TO REPORTERS THAT A FULL IDENTITY OF
VIEWS BETWEEN GREEK AND CYPRIOT GOVERNMENTS WAS REACHED
AFTER REVIEW OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND SECURITY COUNCIL
RESOLUTION. END SUMMARY.

2. GLAFCOS CLERIDES STATED TO NEWSMEN UPON HIS ARRIVAL
AT ATHENS AIRPORT MARCH 19 THAT THERE WERE "SUFFICIENTLY POSITIVE
ELEMENTS" IN MOST RECENT UNSC RESOLUTION ON CYPRUS WHICH WAS ADOPTED
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DESPITE TURKISH EFFORTS TO GIVE IMPRESSION THAT THERE WAS

NO NEED FOR SECURITY COUNCIL TO DISCUSS CYPRUS PROBLEM. THESE POSITIVE ELEMENTS ARE: (A) RECOGNITION OF THE CYPRUS GOVERNMENT AS THE LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE, (B) CONDEMNATION OF THE UNILATERAL TURKISH ACTION IN PROCLAIMING A SEPARATE TURKISH CYPRIOT "STATELET", AND (C) ADOPTION OF A NEW PROCEDURE FOR SEEKING A SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL. CLERIDES ADDED THAT AFTER THE RESOLUTION WAS PASSED HE HAD REPEATED CONTACTS AND TALKS REGARDING THE DATE AND VENUE FOR THE RESUMPTION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. HOWEVER THE MATTER WAS STILL UNDECIDED BECAUSE THE TURKISH SIDE HAS NOT YET GIVEN ITS REPLY.

3. ANSWERING REPORTERS' QUESTIONS, CLERIDES STATED THAT HE HAD FOUND STRONG INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT BY ALL COUNTRIES -- THE NON-ALIGNED, OF THE EAST AND OF THE WEST-- FOR THE INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF CYPRUS, AS WELL AS THE NEED FOR A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS. CLERIDES CONTINUED THAT ALL COUNTRIES CONDEMN ALSO ANY UNILATERAL ACTION AND ESPECIALLY THE PROCLAMATION OF A SEPARATE TURKISH CYPRIOT STATELET. TO QUERY ON SECRETARY KISSINGER'S ASSISTANCE ON CYPRUS PROBLEM, CLERIDES REMARKED THAT HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT TYPE OF ASSISTANCE IS BEING OFFERED BY THE SECRETARY SINCE HE HAD NOT MET WITH KISSINGER AFTER THE LATTER'S RECENT TALKS IN ANKARA.

4. FOREIGN MINISTER CHRISTOPHIDES ALSO SPOKE TO REPORTERS UPON ARRIVING ATHENS AND MADE THE SAME REMARKS AS CLERIDES REGARDING THE POSITIVE ASPECTS OF LATEST UNSC RESOLUTION. HE ALSO NOTED, IN CONNECTION WITH STATEMENT BY SENATOR KENNEDY ON CYPRUS (SEPT), THAT IT WAS HIS BELIEF THAT THE AMERICAN CONGRESS IN GENERAL FAVORS THE GREEK VIEWPOINT ON CYPRUS. REPLYING TO QUESTION ON NEXT STEPS, CHRISTOPHIDES SAID HE THOUGHT THERE WOULD BE FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS DEPENDING ON THE INITIATIVES THAT ARE BEING TAKEN BY UNSYG WALDHEIM.

5. THE SPEAKER OF CYPRUS PARLIAMENT MET WITH REPORTERS AGAIN FOLLOWING HIS LENGTHY MEETING WITH PM CARAMANLIS, WHICH UNCLASSIFIED

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WAS ALSO ATTENDED BY CHRISTOPHIDES, CYPRIOT DEPUTY SPEAKER PAPADOPOULOS AND CYPRIOT AMBASSADOR KRANIDIOTIS. FM BITSIOS, DEPUTY FM STAVROPOULOS AND DIRECTOR GENERAL TZOUNIS ALSO PARTICIPATED IN THE MEETING. CLERIDES TOLD NEWSMEN THAT HE HAD REVIEWED CYPRUS SITUATION WITH THE GOG IN LIGHT OF THE MOST RECENT SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION, AND FULL IDENTITY OF VIEWS HAD BEEN REACHED BY THE TWO SIDES. KUBISCH UNQUOTE. INGERSOLL

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